

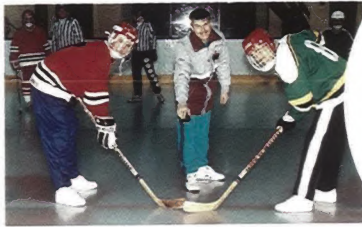


National  
Defence

Défense  
nationale

# EME

## JOURNAL



# What a Party!



Canada





## **EME JOURNAL**

The EME Journal is the magazine of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Branch, published at NDHQ under the terms of reference of the Director General Land Engineering and Maintenance and the EME Branch Adviser. The purpose of the publication is to disseminate professional information among members and exchange opinions, ideas, experience and personnel news, and promote the identity of the EME Branch.

The EME Journal depends upon its readers for content. Articles on all aspects of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering System, photographs, cartoons, people news and comments are solicited. Readers are reminded that the Journal is an unclassified and unofficial source of information. The contents do not necessarily represent official DND policy and are not to be quoted as authority for action.

Contributors are asked to submit the original text typewritten, accompanied by a disk in WordPerfect format. Photos should be sharp, glossy black and white or colour prints with captions typed separately. Personnel should be identified in all cases, both text and captions, by rank, initials, surname, trade and unit.

The editor reserves the right to reject and edit any editorial material.

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# WE DID IT!

## FROM THE BRANCH ADVISOR

I think the title says it all – was that ever a great party! I am extremely pleased with the manner in which the long-awaited 50th Anniversary celebrations have unfolded. Throughout this anniversary year many different groups have participated in all activities, including Regular Force personnel, civilian employees, militia, cadets, EME and RCME Association, retired members, and civilians with ties to EME organizations. The professionalism, pride, and sense of camaraderie shown by all have been incredible to witness. I have received glowing comments from the Chief of the Defence Staff and many others who were very impressed with the manner in which we celebrated our birthday. The CDS stated that "...you have set a standard for celebrating your anniversary with professionalism and joy..."

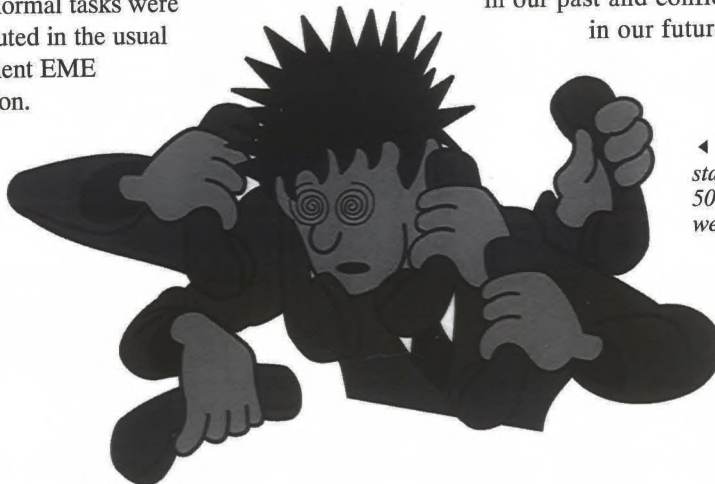
The National Celebration Weekend in Borden had something for everyone and was flawlessly executed. The planning and execution of events ranging from the monument unveiling and parade to a volksmarch, family day, all-ranks dance, and other events too numerous to detail, demanded many hours over a several-year period. The staff at CFSEME worked overtime on 50th Anniversary tasks while maintaining their normal mandate to conduct Branch training.

I would like to personally thank all CFSEME staff as well as 2 Service Battalion, 5 Service Battalion, CFB Borden, CFB Toronto and CFB Trenton for contributing such a great effort and making me very proud to be a member of the EME family that weekend.

I would also like to thank all the other EME members who participated in the planning and execution of 50th Anniversary events across Canada. Although I did not have the opportunity to personally attend all the anniversary events across Canada and overseas, those that I witnessed and the reports from my representatives clearly attest to a total

success. Your enthusiasm and dedication ensured that a great time was had by all. Thank you also to the others who, although perhaps not directly involved in 50th Anniversary planning, helped tremendously in picking up the slack for those who were, to ensure our normal tasks were executed in the usual efficient EME fashion.

Finally, I salute all those who participated in the celebrations. The motto "work hard, play hard" was never so appropriate. You showed that the family spirit is alive and well in the EME Branch, as we face the next 50 years with pride in our past and confidence in our future. ■



◀ CFSEME staff before the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary weekend.



It was recently announced that the Order of Military Merit has been awarded to Chief Warrant Officer Rest, the EME Branch CWO, and to Master Warrant Officer Nolin, from 5 GBMC of Valcartier. Pictures of the award presentations will be included in a future issue of the Journal. Congratulations CWO Rest and MWO Nolin! ■

## THE FIRST EME LIEUTENANT-GENERAL!

by Major (not for long?) L.M. Espanant



Well, was I ever glad to hear about the promotion of LGen Fischer to his current rank! I had been worrying about the apparent ceiling facing EME officers, and wondering just how it would affect my career. Now that I know it's possible to become a LGen, I no longer need to fear becoming stuck without promotion possibilities. (Unless, of course, as a result of articles like this!)

From everyone in the EME Branch, congratulations on your promotion, sir! ■



## COLONEL COMMANDANT'S COMMENTS

By Colonel M.C. Johnston

Now that the National Weekend is over and we have been given the Freedom of the City of Kingston, the frantic pace of the past year has slowed down a bit. We worked hard to prepare our 50th Anniversary celebrations, and we are working hard celebrating. But in the end you might ask, "What did we really accomplished this year? Was it worth it?" My answer is simple. We raised our visibility. We also healed some internal wounds festering since integration. We did both in style. Here is a bit of what I mean.

In my travels over the past two years, I have visited nearly all bases and stations. Over the last six months alone I have visited about fifteen, spending about 50 days "on the road". Recall the "EME Goldies" curling team this winter, my "Station hopping" out West this spring, and the air shows recently. Wherever I have gone I have talked with Craftsmen. Most often it's an informal session in your canteen. Units with one Craftsman on strength got the same attention as larger workshops. In addition, I have met many of you on the Service Flights. In fact several of my best peacekeeping interviews were done in airports along the way.

Aside from that I have had a special opportunity this year to talk with Commanders of Commands, Base Commanders, Commanding Officers, BTSOs and many others outside our Branch. All have favourably remarked on the dedicated, dependable, loyal support they receive from their EMEs. All appreciate your efforts and know how well you contribute to unit/base operations. All are very impressed by our Branch spirit and solidarity.

This year gave them a special opportunity of saying it to me, the DG, the Branch Chief or some other senior EME officer because, as a special effort, we got senior

Branch representatives to as many 50th Anniversary functions as possible. Many people have

remarked to me, "You EMEs certainly are well organized, you sure have great spirit, and can you ever throw a party!"

That's nice to hear and I know they mean it. I get the feeling that it's because they had been able to know us better through local and regional EME 50th Anniversary events. We have made the best use of this opportunity and – we did it in style.

Now it's great being visible and having everybody know all about you. But what sort of image do we want people to have of us? In the EME flag debate of last year we looked at putting the badge on the flag. The answer is to leave things as they are. However, in my discussions with many of you, it became very evident that, badges and flags notwithstanding, the best identifier for our Branch is the Mobile Repair Team doing a tough job out in the front lines working long and hard under difficult, dirty and often dangerous conditions. The many of you who have been in Somalia or the former Yugoslavia over the past two years know what I mean.

So that's what we are, Canada's Craftsmen, the soldier-technicians of Canada's Armed Forces. Engraved on the front of the base of our Commemorative Monument are our four trades badges. This symbolizes our trades-men and tradeswomen who are the foundation of our Branch. Our motto symbolizes how we work by skill and by fighting. The important thing is that that's the way people see us. We have had a good chance of getting that message out this year during our 50th Anniversary activities. We have succeeded and – in style.

In 1975 I went to the École technique des Forces canadiennes as the reviewing officer for one of the graduation classes. After the parade I had an informal discussion with the instructors. Several of them mourned the loss of the Horse badge and the RCEME Corps. To them they had lost all of their traditions. It was the end of the world.

That incident is typical of the festering wound we have carried with us since

integration. Never mind the benefit of Integration, which brought all of the vehicle mechanics in the Canadian Forces into one trade, we had lost the aircraft, radio and radar, welder, and body repairman trades. Never mind the fact that we had been able to preserve our separate identity as an engineering corps, we had lost our badge and our name. The RCEME veterans distanced themselves from the new LORE Branch and formed the RCEME Association to preserve the RCEME name. So there we were, two separate groups, the vets who had no future and members of the LORE Branch who had no past. It was an open wound, i.e. two solitudes.

Then things started to work. Those of us who had served in both RCEME and LORE worked to bring the two solitudes together. First came the name change, then the RCEME Association offered membership to all, RCEME, LORE and LEME alike. The idea of a 50th Anniversary took hold. The RCEME Association was given representation on the 50th Anniversary Steering Committee. It all came together this year and the wound was healed – in style.

The Freedom of the City ceremony was a joint RCEME Association/Regular Force effort. The parade in itself was inspiring. The three contingents represented the past (the RCEME Association), the present (the serving members of the EME Branch) and the future (2861 RCEME Cadet Corps from Windsor and 3018 LETE Cadet Corps from Ottawa). The RCEME badge was resplendent on the berets of the cadets from Windsor and of many of the veterans. The EME badge was on the berets of the cadets from Ottawa and the serving EME members. It was truly a joining of our past with the present and the future.

Out West in Calgary the Regular Force EMEs and the RCEME Association of Alberta celebrated EME Day together. The motto for their celebration neatly sums it all up, Pride in the Past, Faith in the Future.

Arte et Marte ■







## COLONEL COMMANDANT'S SPEECH DURING THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON CEREMONY – June 3, 1994

“Your Worship Mayor Matthews, distinguished guests, members, former members and families of the EME Branch, ladies and gentlemen. Since the end of World War One there have been electrical and mechanical soldier-technicians in Kingston. Before World War Two they served as part of the Kingston garrison as part of the Engineering Branch of the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps.

At the start of World War Two ordnance training was started on the hill at Barriefield. In 1946 the RCEME School was opened. To-day there are three former commandants of RCEME School here with us and one of the former Regimental Sergeants-Major. Since 1970 when the School was moved to Camp Borden, EME soldiers have continued to serve as part of the garrison.

To-day in this ceremony we have commemorated this long and proud history with its close links with your city. Your Worship, it is a great honour for me on behalf of the RCEME Association and the EME Branch to present to you and the citizens of Kingston with this scroll which commemorates the Granting of the Freedom of the City of Kingston to the Corps of RCEME, its predecessors and its successors. ■”

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY “KICK-OFF EVENTS”

by Maj (Retd) Al Adams

On the evening of January 20, 1994 the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Association sponsored the first event of the 50th Anniversary Calendar. The dinner was organized by the Ottawa Chapter under the firm guidance of LCol (Retd) Barry Brown, Chapter Chairman, with the able assistance of LCol (Retd) Jim Youngs and Capt (Retd) Bill Skitteral, also members of the Ottawa Chapter. The guest of honour was BGen (Retd) Bill Paisley, Chairman of the Conference of Defence Associations (CDA). Also seated at the head table were: RAdm Mike Saker, Assistant Deputy Minister (Engineering and Maintenance); LGen Gord Reay, Commander of the Army; MGen Bob Fischer, Past Branch Advisor; BGen Vic Pergat, our present Branch Advisor; Col Murray Johnston, our Colonel Commandant; MGen (Retd) Ernie Creber, a Past Branch Advisor; LCol (Retd) Ernie Wesson, Vice-Chairman, CDA; and Maj (Retd) Al Adams, President of the EME Association. Col Brown acted as PMC. In the 100 attendees at the dinner were 15 Corporate Sponsors to the 50th Anniversary Fund who were guests of the 50th Anniversary Committee. All sponsors, many of whom had not attended a Mess Dinner before, enjoyed themselves and expressed their thanks for being invited. The Toast to the Branch was given by MGen Creber and the thank you was very ably delivered by our Colonel Commandant.

One of the highlights of the evening was presentation of the Corps Honour Roll by

the Colonel Commandant to the Branch Advisor. In his presentation speech, the Colonel Commandant pointed out that our Corps/Branch is like a Regiment, albeit a regiment of many small units, and as such should have all the trappings of an Arms Regiment.

Also on display was a large bulletin board outlining the Branch History and Badges plus the original painting of the Collage, a copy of which many of you should have received by now. The bulletin board will be used throughout the year with our various displays across the country.

At noon on January 21st, 1994, the 50th Anniversary Committee and the Association held a reception in the Zoets Lounge at the Chateau Laurier Hotel. Approximately 200 people passed through the reception line which was manned by the Colonel Commandant, Branch Advisor, and President of the Association. The hotel provided a lovely lunch and drinks were served by members of the local Militia units. Col (Retd) Barry Code and the Ottawa Chapter did a sterling job in organizing this function. The Association can be proud of the high standard of these first two functions of the 50th Celebrations.

The Association was represented on the EME 50th Anniversary Steering Committee by Maj(Retd) Norm Graham. A former boy soldier with long service in RCEME, he had also been in private business very successfully for many years. It was a fortunate choice. He was no

spectator on the Committee, attending nearly all meetings at his own expense and participating actively in discussions, particularly when the committee was struggling with how to raise funds.

Actively involved in major charity drives himself, Mr Graham was able to bring to the Committee a sense of practical experience, business acumen, and entrepreneurship which he generously shared. He initially suggested the idea of annual car draws as a major source of funds for the 50th. He had the vision to know how much was possible and how to adapt the idea to our Branch – in a big way! He patiently suggested, cajoled, and, perhaps most importantly, selflessly contributed ideas that kept the project on track. It was the type of contribution that often is not recognized at the time but in retrospect is discovered to have been invaluable. This can only stem from the sort of dedication of which the Branch fortunately has a surplus.

On the local level, the Association's chapters and individual members were active in regional celebrations and activities, both as planners and as participants. The success of all anniversary events depended on having participation from those who serve and those who have served, and on melding these together to give an image of continuous EME service for 50 years. No better example is the picture in the EME Honour Roll showing a veteran member of the Association and a serving Craftsman together visiting one of the RCEME grave sites. ■



# RCEME STORMS THE CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM!

**D**uring the summer of 1994 the square in front of the Canadian War Museum was taken over by a display commemorating the 50 years of RCEME. Opened on 10 June 1994 by past Branch Advisor MGen (now LGen) Fischer, and current Branch Advisor and DGLEM BGen Pergat, the display included six vehicles and a commemorative arch entrance. Volunteer militia soldiers, augmented by NDHQ and 7 Wing EME personnel, were on hand to answer questions or discuss the displays with visitors. The exhibition was well attended, and on Canada Day alone more than 5000 visitors stopped by!

The history of the RCEME Corps was shown through the use of both old and new technology. A Diamond "T" Wrecker, used in WW II and the Korean War, was located beside the new HLVW Wrecker to emphasis the improvements in recovery equipment. The Canadian War Museum's Machinery "M" Lorry that was rebuilt by 202 Wksp was also on display. It proved interesting to see the equipment that technicians had in this vehicle compared to that of today's SEV kits.



▲ RCEME 50th Anniversary Arch on display at the War Museum.



▲ View of the display from the War Museum.



▲ The Col Comdt gets his point across to those in attendance the opening ceremonies.

An APC just off the rebuild line at 202 Wksp was on display to emphasize the equipment in use since the 1960's. It was equipped with additional armour for the crew commander and gun shields for the crew compartment. The 35 ft Leopard FCS trailer used in Europe had been converted into a display case for the current Weapons, FCS, and Material trades, and former RCEME Radio and Radar Technicians. It included photos and equipment used over the years.

The hit of the display with the children was a white Iltis representing the EME commitment to the United Nations. Inside the Iltis was a blue helmet for visitors to wear to have their photo taken.

To tie the entire display together, there was also a display inside two sections of modular tent. Inside were additional photos of all the trades working together throughout the years from WW II to United Nations tours in the former Yugoslavia.



▲ The ribbon cutting ceremony. (From L to R: Mr Victor Suthern, Director of the War Museum; BGen V Pergat, Branch Advisor; CWO A Rest, Branch Chief Warrant Officer; MGen RN Fischer, Associate Sr ADM(Mat); Col MC Johnston, Col Comdt)



▲ Visitors in attendance during the opening ceremonies. (L to R: LCol EP Luhtala, D Sigs EM; MWO N Maksemuik, DLAEEM; Maj Oswald, REME exchange officer; Maj JRD Cloutier, 7 Wing EME O)

The War Museum display was an excellent way of celebrating the RCEME 50th Anniversary, and gave valuable exposure to the value provided by EME services. Thank you to everyone involved. ■



▲ The EME War Museum Display Team: (from L to R, standing) Capt Cullen, DGLEM/DVEM; Cfn Quinlan, Mat Tech, 7 Wing BEME; Cfn Provencal, Veh Tech, 28 Svc Bn; Pte Gibbon, Sup Tech, 763 Comm Regt; MCpl Chartrand, Armoured, 763 Comm Regt; Cpl Lafosse, Veh Tech, 7 Wing BEME; MCpl Delcorde, Veh Tech, 7 Wing BEME; Cfn Woolsey, Mat Tech, 28 Svc Bn; MWO Jutras, Veh Tech, NDHQ/DVEM. (Seated) Col Johnston, Col Comdt; Mr Victor Suthern, Director Cdn War Museum.





## 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WESTERN AREA EME BONSPIEL

The 24th Edition of the Western Area EME Bonspiel took place in 18 Wing Detachment Penhold 10-14 February, co-hosted by EME organisations from Edmonton, Calgary, and Penhold. As per previous years, the event was open to participants from the West coast and the Prairies all the way to Thunder Bay. However, being the first EME Western Area event of the year, and taking the opportunity to add a 50th Anniversary flavour, the Organising Committee extended invitations to other areas, including NDHQ and CFSEME.

The response to our invitations was tremendous. Most EME organisations and regions were well represented by either serving and/or retired EME members. We were also honoured to have BGen "Sir Vic" Pergat join us with his TEAM. The Bonspiel experience level varied from teams prepared for the Brier (which took place in neighbouring Town of Red Deer) to a relatively inexperienced but entertaining team from Calgary (picture 2 refers). The Bonspiel was a unique occasion to meet friends, go over old war stories between games and make an attempt to improve



▲ *This is how it's done! Sir Vic throwing "the RCME Rock" during the Bonspiel Opening Ceremony.*

our curling game while on the ice. A good time was had by all.

The event was a complete success. Many thanks to those who helped with the organization, participated in the Bonspiel, or simply joined us for a good time! Finally, please take note that the 25th Western EME Bonspiel will take place in 4 Wing Cold Lake. See you there! ■



▲ *The NERDS. Not your average team.*

### "THE WINNERS"





# WINNIPEG

by Capt B.J. MacGillivray

EME Squadron Winnipeg celebrated the 50th Anniversary with maintenance personnel in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. These included EME personnel from SSO EME (AIRCOM), Manitoba/Lakehead Militia District Headquarters/G4, 17 Service Battalion, 18 Service Battalion, 2 PPCLI Maintenance Platoon, Fort Garry Horse, 735 Communication Regiment, Royal Winnipeg Rifles, Lake Superior Scottish Regiment, and members of the Manitoba Chapter of the RCME Veterans Association.



▲ A serviceable Sherman tank was an unexpected visitor at the CFB Winnipeg Open House. Cfn Hiscock "sits" alert as always.

For the mid-May Anniversary period, EME Squadron held a parade with LCol K.W. Kirkland, SSO EME AIRCOM, as Reviewing Officer. During this parade, four maintainers were presented their well-deserved 125th Commemorative Medals. Following the parade was a Dinner & Dance that evening and a Sports Day the next day.

During CFB Winnipeg's celebration of the 50th Anniversary of D-Day, an Open House was staged on June 4th for the general public. All of EME Sqn's trades

were represented in static displays that were so awe-inspiring, even Sadie came to visit.



▲ Sadie, poised as always at the CFB Winnipeg open house.

During the Red River Exhibition, Manitoba's largest fair, the Jeep Technical Display Team performed several shows from 30 June-2 July. Despite the doubts of many onlookers, the team beat their published time of 99 seconds by 33 seconds. These maintainers should be congratulated for their dedication and superb efforts in representing the Branch.

Remaining for the year is an All-Ranks Mess Dinner scheduled for end-September and a special ceremony on 11 November to be conducted with RCME Veterans from the area in commemoration of the 353 fallen Craftsmen.

The EME 50th Celebrations were structured in a manner that not only were our past Maintainers recognized, but the Branch's most important entity was honoured – our Craftsmen! ■



▲ CWO Brian Brown, MMM, CD, receiving the 125 Commemorative Medal.



▲ Maj Al Augustson and CWO Brian Brown unveil a wall mural of the present badge with the RCME and LORE colours. (Painting by MCpl Mel Carty and Cpl Al Jonkman.)



▲ WO(Retd) Ross Wilkes, CD receiving the 125 Commemorative Medal for his contributions as an electrician at the Workshop for 20 years. Ross, a Korean War Veteran, joined the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps in 1943 as a Boy Soldier.





## EDMONTON

**A**nd, yes, it did finally happen! The big weekend, the EME 50th Anniversary weekend. All were ready and anxious to underline this very special moment. The celebration started officially with the annual sports day. On the program a myriad of highly demanding activities like the junior – senior ball game, the starter and balloon toss, the creeper, tire relay, and chain of command race were offered to the “athletes” present. All records were established very early in the morning (Go figure! !) and the junior crew were beaten severely again (Rumours circulating to the effect that a lot of MCpls are dreaming of an accelerated promotion). Everybody was in the “groove”, Sgt Steve McCready being very thrilled to show the world his uncanny abilities with toilet plungers (see picture 1) and WSM “Uncle Jim” Baird claiming his reserved spot beside the bar entertaining the young crowd with “war stories”.



▲ Sgt Steve McCready very thrilled to show the world his uncanny abilities with toilet plungers.



▲ Retired members of the RCEME corps from the Edmonton region.

The sports day over, the next gathering was the much more serious 50th Anniversary celebration dinner. A lot of valuable effort was devoted to the planning of this evening (Special mention to Sgt Rick Waring and all members of the unit’s canteen committee), the organizers being rewarded by the high level of participation from

members of the unit. The happening’s high moments were the reunion of old members of the RCEME corps and the “via satellite” speech from our honorary Col Cmdt Murray Johnston. Again the evening was very much appreciated by the numerous participants, and we did dance to country music (I guess some will never get used to it !!).

Previous to the 50th Anniversary weekend, this unit had the great pleasure to receive a visit from the EME Technical Skill Team. Performing during the Namao International Air Show, the team succeeded in gathering strong support from the crowd. From all of us here, thank you for this marquee presence.

Overall, the celebration fostered strong esprit de corps and confirmed the “work hard, play hard and party hard” attitude so special to this Branch. All Edmonton’s participants will keep memorable memories of the EME 50th anniversary.

Signed by all members of EME Sqn (soon to be B Maint again) Edmonton. ■



# THE FIRST 100 – TEAM BONSPIEL

By MCpl Len Forder

The members of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from CFB Petawawa were proud to be the hosts for the 30th Annual Land Maintenance Bonspiel from 3-9 March 1994. This event was designated as one of the National events celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Royal Canadian Electrical Mechanical Engineer Corps. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of all the committee members and the camaraderie of all of the participants, the Bonspiel was a spectacular success.

The pace set was gruelling at times. Curling started at 0600 hrs on Thursday 3 March and continued around the clock until the closing ceremonies on Sunday 6 March. Over 500 friends (old and new) experienced 4 days of camaraderie and competitive curling in six separate divisions: A, B, C, D & E and an "A" Consolation Event.

The Opening Ceremonies were conducted in grand style, with our spielers being escorted onto the ice by the stirring sounds of the SSF Pipes and Drums and a colour party dressed in the Battle Dress and Patrol Dress of RCEME and the old Air Force Dress. After all the rinks were formed up on either side of sheet 3, our Director General, Brigadier-General V. Pergat, threw the "Shot Rock" (a modified piston head) to open the bonspiel. Our Colonel Commandant, Colonel M. Johnston, the famous author of the book "Canada's Craftsmen", and our Branch Chief, CWO A. Rest, did a splendid job of sweeping (and kicking) the Director General's stone right to the button.



▲ Col Johnston and CWO Rest sweep for BGen Pergat as he throws the first rock. It was the last time the EME Goldies were contenders!

We were honoured to have Mr. Jim Rabishaw as our special guest for the opening ceremonies. Jim was a member of RCEME here in Petawawa when it was first formed 50 years ago. Even though Jim became a civilian shortly after the war and has gone on to become a pillar of our local community, he still reminisces about the "good ol' days" when he became a RCEME Craftsman.

The thrill of curling draw after draw was intermixed with that of the Meet & Greet, Casino Night, and a wonderful banquet, catered by the expert staff of the Centennial Centre. The Banquet proved to be the most memorable of the special activities. We had a 5' x 4' (yes five foot by four foot) cake made for the banquet. With the crest for our bonspiel skilfully rendered in icing, it was a joy to behold and even bigger

joy to consume. During the banquet we all appreciated the heartfelt gratitude and motivating words expressed by BGen Pergat and the Bonspiel Chairman, Major O.Z. Kobylansky, which was seconded only by experiencing the camaraderie of our fellow craftsmen. We left that banquet (in the wee hours) with old friendships renewed and a strong sense of pride in the Craftsmen who have gone before us and those whose lives we now share.

There were many door prizes given out throughout the bonspiel. All of them were donated by local citizens and businesses. We also had many raffles for everything from a mountain-bike to fine, hand crafted dart boards. Judging by the look on the winners face as he rode his mountain-bike around the banquet hall, the winners were very happy.



▲ The 4 ft by 5 ft cake is cut. On the right is Maj "Koby" Kobylansky, who organized the spiel.



▲ CWO Rest, BGen Pergat and Col Johnston pose with the colour party.







All of this did not take away from the suspense and anticipation caused by the main event that we were all eagerly waiting for. The finals were held on Sunday. With well matched teams, who had battled through the biggest EME draw ever assembled, everyone was held on the edge of their seats until the very end.

It would be hard to imagine a more fitting end to our bonspiel than the final draw between our most seasoned veteran curlers from Petawawa, Jim Misseau,

Pete Comeau, Vern Surret and Pete Lanouette, and the young, highly competitive rink from Borden of Tom Devaney, Mike Hofstotter, Frank Foudin and Paul Robichaud. This was a draw between the old guard and the new guard, the original home of our bonspiel and the current home, the locals and the visitors. The victory was sweet, as it is the dream of all EME curlers, and the pinnacle of the winning teams' curling career, to have their names forever etched in the 30 year history of RCME curling. In addition to the glory, the

winners of the various events took home over \$10,000 worth of prizes!

We would like to thank the many volunteers who donated so much of their time, and our many sponsors who supported us in such a solid and gratifying manner. Without them we would not have been able to showcase the variety and quality of services available in our community and we would not have been able to have such a wonderfully successful bonspiel. ■

## "THE WINNERS"



▲ A Division Winners, Rink #69 from Petawawa • Skip – Mr Jim Misseau • V Skip – WO (ret'd) Verne Surret • Second – MWO Pete Comeau • Lead – Sgt (ret'd) Pete Lanouette



▲ B Division Winners, Rink #70 from 1 Svc Bn Calgary • Skip – MWO Phil Crawford • V Skip – Sgt Glen Brunelle • Second – WO Chuck Hann • Lead – MCpl Loc Ur



▲ C Division Winner, Rink #35 from NDHQ Ottawa • Skip – WO Mike Ewert • V Skip – Mr Ross "Rooster" MacEwen • Second – Mr. Bill Goundry • Lead – MWO Bill Campbell



▲ D Division Winner, Rink #16 from CFB Toronto • Skip – Cpl Don Lumley • V Skip – WO Paul Desrosiers • Second – WO Lyn Dahr • Lead – Sgt Don Currier



▲ E Division Winner, Rink #34 from NDHQ Ottawa • Skip – Ms Nancy Sheppard • V Skip – CWO Tom Chauder • Second – Mr. Neil Peck • Lead – Lynn Fraser



▲ "A" Consolation Winner, Rink #36 from NDHQ Ottawa • Skip – Mr. Don Duffenais • V Skip – Mrs. Jeanne Duffenais • Second – WO Serge Paradis • Lead – MWO Rick Daigault



# PETAWAWA

By MCpl Len Forder

CFB Petawawa's local EME 50th Anniversary celebration is now another historical fact that will be included in the reminiscing and "good ol' days" stories at the 75th Anniversary.

Our local EME Maintainers kicked off the 50th celebrations this year by hosting the National EME Curling Bonspiel in March. The Bonspiel was a spectacular success, with people coming from all over Canada to participate. They all went away happy and marvelling at how much the local communities of Petawawa and Pembroke had to offer.

Our Birthday celebrations started on 31 May with a 400 km run from CFB Borden to Petawawa. The 16 "EME Roadrunners", led by WO Stephan Richard, arrived here in Petawawa with crowds cheering, flags waving, lights flashing, and sirens wailing. They carried a commemorative scroll, rolled up in a special baton, all the way from Borden, which was presented on their arrival.



▲ A day for everyone! ▶



▲ Cpl Murphy leading the horse which symbolizes "power under control" for EME. Note MCpl White carrying the "golden bucket"!

On 2 June the 50th Committee hosted a golf day and Meet & Greet held on the beautiful Centennial Centre Golf Course. Although the day started cold, things quickly warmed up with people whacking those useless little balls all over the place and talking over old times. The day was capped off with a Commemorative Mess Dinner that evening, with our Director General, BGen V. Pergat, as our guest speaker.

The 3rd of June was a very busy day. The day started with the Monument Dedication Parade, during which a restored M-62

wrecker, commemorating the RCME 50th Anniversary, was unveiled in front of the Sgt. Hurry building. This was a very unique event because for the first time since the "Old Craftsman" was laid to rest in 1968, combined regular and reserve EME members gathered together on parade. The Maintainers from 2 Svc Bn Maint Coy & Maint P1, Cdn AB Regt, 2RCHA, IRCR, RCD, 2CER, SSF HQ & Sig Sqn, 2 Fd Amb. 427 Sqn, 1 Cdn Fd Hosp

and 1 Air Defence Regiment all combined to mark this auspicious occasion. The Base Commander, Col R.G. Meating, was our reviewing officer; his stirring oration was a testament to EME and our purpose, which is providing combat service support "By Skill and By Fighting". We were also honoured to have Mr. Cecil Picotte as our special guest for the parade, and he assisted us in the unveiling.

Mr. Picotte has been with RCME since 1950. He joined as a Recovery Mechanic and served with the 23 Composite Brigade Group RCME, which was formed in Petawawa prior to deploying to Korea. On deployment to Korea it was renamed the 23 Infantry Workshop and Cecil spent 16 months in theatre with the Wksp. 23 Inf Wksp was later renamed 2 Field Workshop, which was the predecessor of 2 Svc Bn Maint Coy. Cecil also spent 26 months in Germany and 3 years on UN Duty in Egypt. That is a total of 6 tours, but he only wears the number "5" on his ribbon because someone must have thought six tours was an impossibility and a "6" is not available. After Mr. Picotte took his release from the Army in 1971, he was hired on as a civilian mechanic with 2 Svc Bn. He continued to provide the same indispensable, highly skilled







▲ Col R.G. Meating inspecting the EME troops.



▲ Colour party dressed in RCEME patrol and battle dress circa 1944.



▲ Mr Picotte using a remote control from an HLWV wrecker to lift the tarp from the M62 wrecker monument.



▲ The "little" things that thrill the kids in us all!

service for us until he retired in 1992. In fact, the wrecker that is now our monument is the one that Cecil used for many of his years with us. As you can see, with 43 years of service a lot of our past – WW 2 history is wrapped up in Cecil! He epitomizes the selfless dedication and high level of skill with which our Craftsmen have always served our country. It was a great honour to have him assisting with our ceremonies.

Later that day we continued with a BBQ and sports at Kiska Beach, and the day's festivities culminated with an All Ranks Dinner/Dance at the Centennial Centre. The cooks at the Centennial Centre did their usual high-calibre job of providing roast beef that was tender and succulent, copious quantities of fresh salads, and delightfully decadent deserts. Their staff was well dressed, well mannered and very helpful. With good food, music, and friends we couldn't think of a better way to celebrate our 50th.

On Saturday 4 June our local festivities concluded with the Family Fun Day held at Kiska Beach. There were assault boat, BV-206, and horse rides. Face painting, Jr Commando Course, sack races, and many displays helped to round out the day. In addition, we had a BBQ and some (cold) swimming! This provided our whole families with the opportunity to take part in marking this historical occasion.

All of us on the EME 50th Anniversary Committee would like to thank the past and present members of RCEME, LORE, LEME, EME for giving our Country such dedicated service, for which we are so justifiably proud. We would also like to thank CFB Petawawa for ensuring that we had the facilities with which to celebrate this occasion in a proper and fitting style. Most importantly, we express our heartfelt gratitude to our families. They have insured that the skill, dedication, and spirit of our members has always enabled us to live up to our motto "Arte et Marte" (by Skill and by Fighting). ■



# HALIFAX, ETC

EME personnel from CFB Halifax, CFB Shearwater, MARCOM HQ, LFAA HQ and 33 Svc Bn celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of RCME on 13 May 1994. The celebrations started with a parade in the morning, followed by a barbecue and a sports day. In attendance were present-day EME personnel, their co-workers (of other trades and civilians), and many retired RCME, LORE, LEME, and EME personnel.



▲ Members of the CFB Shearwater team receiving their trophy for winning the sports events.

Unfortunately, the rain dictated that the festivities had to be held indoors, which did not take away from how sharp the EME technicians looked on parade. They were marched on by WO W.B. Kemp, Wpns Tech CFB Halifax, to the music of bagpipes provided by Cpl T. Lightowler, Rad tech CFB Halifax. The reviewing officer was LCol J.E. Morrison, G4 for LFAA HQ, and our guest of honour was Mr Harold Colquhoun. Mr Colquhoun was a craftsman who rebadged to RCME when the corps was first formed. The guest of honour, much to his delight, was asked to accompany LCol Morrison during the inspection.

The sports day was originally planned to consist of a softball tournament and a tug of war. Due to the rain, it turned into a sports tabloid, which included

a hockey shoot, dart shoot, golf put, football toss, and finished off with a tire change contest.

The final standings were:

- 1st place: CFB Shearwater with 316 pts
- 2nd place: LFAA HQ with 290 pts
- 3rd place: CFB Halifax with 287 pts
- 4th place: 33 Svc Bn with 261 pts

The organizers of the sports day had a little surprise event planned as well – an officer tire change. This was not as simple as it sounds because there were a lot of unexpected rules and tricks, such as grease on the tires. This event was won hands down by Capt Tony Russell from CFB Shearwater, and the honour of last place went to LCol Morrison.

Everyone had fun watching these events and thoroughly enjoyed the barbecued steak and the refreshments. Our guest of honour was in for a surprise of his own. Maj(Ret'd) Schofield arrived around noon to join in the festivities, and was introduced to many of the people present. When Mr Colquhoun was introduced to him, they realized that Maj Schofield had been Mr Colquhoun's OC during World War II! This was a coincidence that nobody expected, but it most certainly added to the nostalgia of the day.

The day finished off with awards presentations and cake cutting. Despite the poor weather fun was had by all. The next night many of the people came out again for an all-ranks dance, where

videos of the previous days events were shown. These videos will be kept at CFB Halifax for our unit records. It was a day to remember and we will not forget it very quickly. ■



▲ The youngest and the oldest cut the cake. Mr Colquhoun and Lt P.J. Comeau, CFB Halifax.



▲ Cfn Harold Colquhoun (left) and Maj Doug Schofield meet for the first time in fifty years.



▲ Maj M.P. Turingia, BEMEO CFB Halifax, presenting Mr Colquhoun with a gift of appreciation.



▲ Maj M.P. Turingia, BEMEO CFB Halifax, presenting LCol J.E. Morrison, G4 LFAA HQ, with a plaque in appreciation for reviewing the parade.



▲ Capt A. Russell, WEMEO CFB Shearwater, receiving his first place prize for the tire changing contest.







# GREENWOOD

by M.C. Dickson, Capt, OC EME Sqn, CFB Greenwood

On 13 May 1994, EME Squadron CFB Greenwood celebrated the Branch's Birthday. The weather did not cooperate and, like the

"D-Day" landings, a bad weather plan was put into effect! The indoor sports and games were none the less enjoyed by all who participated. ■



▲ ETSM, MWO Phillips, demonstrates the proper position of "ATTENTION" while laying on a stretcher.



◀ Cpl Colbourne's interpretation of "Night Vision Goggles".



▲ What a well-dressed ball hockey referee should wear.



▲ BTSO, LCol Greenlaw, and Pte Miller, EME Sqn's youngest Private, cut the EME Birthday Cake.



▲ Cpl Osborne, EME Golf Pro.



▲ OC EME Sqn, Capt Dickson, presents 1st place Plaque to Cpl Heon, Team Two Representative.



▲ EME Obstacle Race.



▲ ETSM, MWO Phillips, gives lessons in "Pie Eating Etiquette".



# LAST BIRTHDAY IN EUROPE

By Capt J.R. Coté

**T**he celebrations of the 50th Anniversary in CFB Lahr took on a very special flavour of nostalgia, felt by all members present. After all, it is here in Europe that RCEME first went to battle and set up it's first field workshops, and the souvenir of that past is omnipresent in the hearts of the inhabitants and can be seen on a myriad of monuments in almost every city and in the countryside. Since D-Day in 1944, EME soldiers had been on European soil and participated in post-war history right up until the fall of the Berlin Wall. The disappearance of the "Bad Bear" Soviets as enemy put an end to that era; the closure of CFB Lahr was completed on 15 August 1994, so our 50th Anniversary celebrations also were the last EME functions to be held in Germany. Of course, the EME Community in Lahr this year, with just above 60 military members, was not even the shadow of what it had been in the hey-days of the Cold War, when it numbered over 900 EME soldiers, but we made the effort to properly commemorate the occasion nonetheless.

## A Busy Schedule

Because of the closure, most maintainers were leaving before the 15th of May, so we moved up EME day to 13 April to ensure most personnel could attend. That also made us the first EME members to celebrate EME Day and the 50th. But even with the short time left and the busy closure activities, the organizing committee put together a very busy schedule: Shinny Hockey tournament, EME Bonspiel/ Funspiel, BML Open House, RCEME 50th Parade and Sports Day, Dinner and Dance, and finally an EME Happy Hour on Friday, 13th May.



## EME Display Cases

Because of our small size, every effort was made to have participation from other Base personnel in our activities and to openly publicize all events to draw the attention on this very special occasion. One part of our publicity plan was the preparation of two display cases that would be filled with pictures and memorabilia from all trades. The four trades each got one panel to do and the techs out-did each other, which resulted in two truly magnificent display cases telling the RCEME story with few words and many pictures. These were displayed at the messes and at all major functions for the benefit of all Base



▲ First puck of the shinny hockey tournament. LCol Dave Redman of BML 1 faces off against the BCompt captain.

personnel. They were sent to Canada in June to be displayed at LFCHQ, NDHQ and CFB Borden later this year.

## Shinny Hockey Tournament

This event kicked off the celebrations in the first week of February. Eight teams from all sections on Base took part, with "maintenance" mustering two teams. Ever played ice hockey but only with running shoes (no broomball shoes allowed)? It's loads of fun until the day after, when you discover all those extra muscles you never exercised at the gym. Base Maintenance (BML) was of course hosting the event, and invited the other sections to share in the fun.



▲ Cpl Lewis receives the Glen Benoit Memorial Award from LCol Redman.

Unfortunately the maintenance teams (BML 1 and BML 2) over-did the "sharing" bit by letting the other teams win in the first round and being eliminated, so we "hosted" the tournament from the stands. One of the B Supply teams won the gold after four gruelling one-hour matches on the same day. Of course it all ended at BML for finger food and German beer, how else?

## Last EME Funspiel

Since we already had the last official EME Bonspiel in 1993, we decided to have another "really" last EME Funspiel at the end of February 1994. Although everybody in Lahr was tired of "last" events by that time, there was no shortage of fun to be had. The "huge" ten rink tourney lasted one full day and one could not hide from the nostalgia of previous EME curling events at the RVCC that lasted whole weekends and

catered for over 160 curlers. But in good EME tradition, everybody enjoyed themselves, drank lots of beer and "gummy bears" (things never change), and of course everybody won a prize.

## BML Open House

On 18 March 1994, Base Maintenance Lahr completed it's last work order, signifying the closure of the main workshop, while some elements would move to another location to provide essential services until the end. To celebrate the occasion, all Base personnel were invited on a Friday afternoon for a "Beer Fest". Instead of the traditional beer tent, the setting was of course our empty BML





▲ Hockey action. Non-violent sport, eh!

hanger. Hoists became bars and the work bays were covered with folding tables and our display cases. About half the Base showed up so it made for a good crowded beer call. It was also a sad moment for our guys; it meant the "mechanics" would become "movers" and "packers" as the turn-in of all DA and closure of maintenance would go full swing from that day on.

### A Tank Named "Bold"

Being in Europe, it's hard to forget that RCCEME history began here in the weeks preceding D-Day. One of the first tasks of RCCEME technicians before the Normandy invasion was to prepare all vehicles and waterproof them. The assault waves would depend on intimate tank support provided by Sherman DD tanks that could float once equipped with a canvas skirt and which moved in towards the beach amidst the landing crafts, powered by two propellers. The tank named "BOLD" is such a tank belonging to the First Hussars, which never made it ashore that day and sank in heavy seas a mile short of landing. The tank was kept intact for thirty years in its watery grave before it was salvaged in 1972 under the initiative of Sgt Leo Gariépy, a First Hussars Veteran. For the last twenty years, the tank has been on the central place of the town of Courseulles-Sur-Mer in the centre of JUNO Beach, and is the single most important Canadian memorial on the Normandy Coast. The tank hull is covered with commemorative plaques from every regiment/unit that participated in the liberation of Normandy; only the First Hussars and RCCEME plaques are

on the cupola. This honourable spot was earned by RCCEME because of the work we have done over the years to maintain the vehicle in good shape and of course because these "floating" tanks are witnesses to the achievements of our Corps in preparing for D-Day. (As an aside, you may have noticed that the tank can be seen on our 50th Anniversary poster).

So, with the 50th Anniversary of D-Day approaching, and tank "BOLD" in bad need of a maintenance visit, our Colonel Commandant initiated a project to refurbish the tank. End of March 94 saw a team of four technicians from CFB Lahr travel to Normandy to "fix-up" "BOLD". The two Mat Techs, one Veh Tech and one Weapons Tech toiled away for four days: shine the plaques, grind the rust away, paint the whole tank, paint new markings, shore up the underside with adjustable stands, paint the road wheels and cement base as well as shining other Canadian plaques displayed on Juno Beach. The hard work was compensated with one day of touring to the various landing sites and we also visited "Happy Valley", the first site where the Second Canadian Armoured Workshop advanced after landing. Overall it was a very fulfilling experience for all members involved.

Because of the efforts of EME technicians, tank "BOLD" was a proud memorial on 6 June 94 when Canada's Prime Minister and many veterans congregated around it to mark the 50th Anniversary of D-Day.

*Editor's Note: See the next issue for a complete story about "Bold" and some pictures of the refurbishment.*

### RCCEME 50th Anniversary/BML Closure Parade

The 50th Anniversary celebration weekend started off with the traditional EME Day parade; at the same time, it was the BML Closure parade. Because of inclement weather, the small 30 member guard gathered inside the empty maintenance hangar. Not only did the weather not cooperate but neither did the Serbs: our reviewing officer, BGen Pergat, was held up somewhere in Bosnia and couldn't make his way on time to Lahr for our parade, so we settled for the Base Commander, Col Les Corbett, who gladly reviewed the troops to the tune of "Lilibulero" and "Auprès de ma Blonde".

Two other significant "lasts" occurred on parade. First, the Glen Benoit Memorial Award was presented for the last time in Europe with Cpl Lewis being honoured as top craftsman. Cpl Glen Benoit was an FCS tech with the RCDs who was killed in 1986 while repairing a Leopard tank in Lahr. In his memory, the Dragoons donated an award to the EME Branch which has been presented annually to the top craftsman in CFE based on criteria of performance, physical fitness, leadership and community involvement. This award was then transferred to CFB Petawawa where this fine tradition will continue within 2 Brigade.

Finally, the EME flag, which had continuously flown over Western Europe for the last fifty years, was symbolically lowered for the last time to a piper's lament. The flag was sent with other



▲ It's a lot of work to lose the game and get a free beer! (MCpl "Klem" Kelly, Mr Jim" used to play with the Doors" Morrison, and Cpl "Kujo" Carriere.





▲ Parade reviewed by Col Corbett, LCol Redman, and Capt Coté.

CFE memorabilia to be enshrined in the time capsule under the Commemorative Monument in Borden.

### EME Sports Day

After the parade and coffee break, the troops scrambled to change and get on with the EME Sports Day. Personnel from BTn and B Sup were invited to help muster 4 teams of ten. Once again, as the small group was gathered to get the traditional opening words from the Senior EME member, LCol Redman, everybody reminisced about the good old days when EME troops on Sports Day, with their flags and banners, filled the whole grass area of the race track like a Roman legion on parade. To compensate for the small numbers, all participants were kept busy by playing in all events, which amounted to four half-hour baseball matches and four half-hour volley ball matches. The whole sequence was interspersed with small breaks for food, beer, more food, and yet more beer.

Feeling that the troops hadn't sweated enough, the organizers changed the 4 x 100 meter relay race into a 10 x 400 meters relay so everybody could share in the fun; and the 30 inch wrench that served as relay baton didn't make it easier. BGen Pergat arrived in time to reinforce BML 1 on the volleyball

court and participate in the victory on the race track to give that team

top position. Once again, loads of fun, gallons of beer, and the sun even shined a bit on the valley of fog.

### EME Dinner and Dance

The last gathering of the EME family with spouses occurred on the Saturday night, 14 April. With DGLEM and Base Commander as honoured guests, the "crowd" of ninety nicely filled the main room of a Friesenheim Gasthaus. Excellent cuisine, good wine and beer, and most importantly, great camaraderie set the tone of the night. The presence of retired RCEME members like Dexter Stewart, Gary Edmonds, and Pete Woolridge added some significance to this 50th Anniversary gathering. Dinner was concluded with a toast to the Branch and we all sang Happy Birthday as a cake with the "50th" logo was brought forward to BGen Pergat. The hard-core partiers transferred to the Centennial Club (Jr Ranks) where a live band played until the wee hours.

### EME Happy Hour

Although all messes were closed by then, we took the opportunity to officially open the Lahr All Ranks Rest Easy (in the WO and Sgt Mess) on 13 May by making it an EME-hosted function. The huge 5 ton wrecker (recalled from the disposal lot) parked at the door made it clear to all who controlled the building. All attendee's were greeted by a "maintainers" reception line and sent off to four stands where they had to accomplish trade-related tasks. FCS had a battery testing stand where meter and tongue were approved instruments, while the Materials tech had the poor bastards hammer a nail in hard wood with a small head hammer. On they went to the weapons stand where all had to do a field disassembly/assembly of a C7 rifle (well oiled thank you) which proved to be difficult for many !?! It ended at the vehicles stand where they had to match various nuts, bolts and washer at the bottom of a full oil pan. Those that completed the circuit got four tickets of the colour of the flag which, when properly assembled, gave them free food and refreshments

for the night. Many laughs, lots of cleaning rags, and the good crowd made it a memorable opening for the rest easy, as all Base personnel learned a bit more about our trades. That event concluded our RCEME 50th Anniversary celebrations, as we were quickly running out of time and personnel as remaining "maintainers" flew back to Canada around end May-mid June.

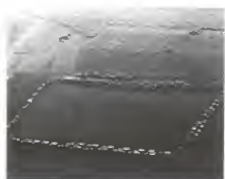
### Farewell to Deutschland

The last few years in Lahr will long remain in the memories of all who were there. As we celebrated 50 years of EME history, we "made history" with our involvement in the Gulf War, the Yugo deployments, and finally by closing one of the biggest Bases of the Canadian Forces. The 50th Anniversary celebrations of the last few months not only provided us with much-needed entertainment and "stress" breaks but it also taught us something. Although many believe that life in the Forces will never be the same again without CFE, we rest assured in the knowledge that RCEME survived 50 years of history and that the EME family will always be there. Farewell to Germany. Auf Wiedersehen.

Arte et Marte ■



▲ WO Gagné and WO Whitnall lower the EME flag for the last time in Europe.







# EME SPORTS DAYS IN LONGUE-POINTE

by Capt Denis Milot

As the 202 Workshop Sports Officer, the 50th Anniversary festivities presented a double challenge to me. First, this event involved a regional aspect this year, and secondly it was a solid baptism by fire for your humble scribe! Not only one but two days of sport tournament had to be organised, both at the unit and regional levels. Fortunately, the presence of the Technical Skill Team provided a supplementary attraction to the participants, and its performance reflected a good degree of professionalism.

## Regional Sport Day – 10 May 1994

This day was extremely important, with 202 WD being the host of all units of the west-Québec area. More than 600 people were expected to participate and had to be kept busy during the festivities. Needless to say, our main concern for the day was the weather. No problem to accommodate minor things like solar eclipses, but rain would definitely not have been welcome. In the end, only a small sample of every type of weather phenomenon occurred, except snow, by the end of the day!

About the sporting events, it's no surprise that 202 WD obtained the largest number of firsts, not only because of its population but given the quality of its representatives. The soft-ball, volley-ball and floor-hockey championships were all won by 202 WD teams. However, respect should be paid to the winning tug-of-war and horse-shoes teams from St-Hubert. Generally, we received congratulations from the participants about the organisation, except for a particular individual, who shall remain nameless, from outside the unit. I think there was a slight feeling of frustration on his part because his team was in the process of losing a third place final against 202 WD!

After the success of this year, we believe these regional tournaments should be considered for coming years.

## Local Sports Day – 11 May 1994

Even though this day seemed to be a repetition of the one before, there were new battles to be fought! The divisions of 202 Wksp like very much to "aimably" challenge each other on the field of "battle". Moreover, the Color Parade is an annual event special to our unit, on which more efforts were expended this year for its preparation. The "White Star" from Admin/Eng dazzled all the spectators and judges by the quality of its presentation and the quantity of elements involved, ensuring them the trophy. However, the performance of the V&A "Black Machine", which seemed modest at the beginning, surprised all by its enthusiastic demonstration during the march, providing them second place to



▲ How's this for form? Col Johnston throws out the first pitch.



▲ Operations Div plays Adm/Eng on 11 May.



▲ The Col Cmt, Col Johnston, and Maj Claude Turmel review the parade on 10 May 94.



▲ LCol Read gives the plaque for the winning volley-ball team to Sgt Benoit Chenel. The author, Capt Denis Milot, is the MC.



▲ The colour parade.





▲ Col St Laurent hit(?) the first ball to open the ball tournament.

the detriment of the Mechanical Division with Centurion Hardy and his Legionaries. According to some sources, V&A opted for a fine surprise effect instead of their usual "big muscles" type of show. Something to note is the exceptional participation of the W Ops O, LCol Coulombe, under the identity of the famous "Gargamel" and his Schtroupfms (please don't check the spelling). Even our Commandant had a little surprise



▲ Col Johnston gives the General Salute.

involving his personal car, which had mysteriously disappeared that morning.

In the sports events, V&A Division won the most firsts, four out of six. The Electrical and Mechanical Divisions won respectively the trophies for soft-ball and petanque.

In conclusion, I must mention the very good job done by all our event organisers, who were for the most part doing this job for the first time at 202 WD. On my behalf and that of all the participants, congratulations for the good work and thanks to you. ■

## VANCOUVER ISLAND

Given the impossibility of missing the celebrations to be held on the May 15th weekend in Borden, Major Jeff Rutter of the Base EME Workshop in Esquimalt assembled representatives of all the EME organizations on Vancouver Island, and together they planned a celebration for the weekend of May 6-7, 1994. And so, on the afternoon of May 6th, EME folk from Esquimalt EME Workshop, 11 (Victoria) Service Battalion, 3PPCLI Maintenance Platoon, EME Association (Victoria Chapter), 19 Wing Comox, and retired members from the local area all gathered in the 3PPCLI Maintenance Platoon building at WorkPoint for the inevitable and always memorable Meet & Greet.

The next morning, despite a few sore heads, MWO MacLeod of the Esquimalt EME Workshop mustered a small but exceptional parade, for which the Reviewing Officer was none

other than Colonel (Retd) Barry Code. It certainly was good to parade in Army fashion, at least for the Esquimalt and Comox guys working with the Navy and the Air Force! Following the parade, Colonel Code officiated at two special presentations which were made as part of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations.

Maj Geoff MacClelland, OC Maint Coy 11 Svc Bn, and Maj Jeff Rutter, Base EME Officer, jointly presented to the CO 11 Svc Bn, LCol Ratz, a 3/4 Ton Truck which was completely refurbished by the CFB Esquimalt EME Workshop. The 3/4 Ton Truck will form the cornerstone of a display of vehicles which will eventually be placed outside the Armoury.

Capt (Retd) Fred Chess of the EME Association presented three wood and glass cabinets to LCol Ratz, who accepted them on behalf of the Ashton Armoury Museum. These display cases were completely restored by members of the Museum Committee of the EME Association, Victoria Chapter, and will

contain a number of RCEME/LORE/LEME/EME memorabilia.

Later that evening, 140 people attended the final event, the Dinner/Dance. Despite being located on the Armoury Floor, creative decorations and a festive spirit ensured that a good time was had by all. ■



▲ Colonel (Retd) Barry Code, together with Major Jeff Rutter, BEMEO Esquimalt, and Maj (Retd) Fred Legg, President of the Victoria Chapter of the EMEA, cut the cake during the Vancouver Island 50th Anniversary Dinner/Dance.







# THE RCEME COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT

by Colonel (Retired) M.C. Johnston

**T**o explain the EME Commemorative Monument, it is necessary to answer three questions: Why did we build it? What does the monument consist of? What does it symbolize?

**Why have we built this EME Commemorative Monument?** A Branch Monument at the Branch's School serves as an inspiration to members and future members of the Branch. That is why in 1962 the RCEME Gates were built at the entrance to the RCEME School in Kingston. However, the school was moved to Borden in 1970. Therefore, when the EME 50th Anniversary celebrations were planned it was decided to build a Monument at Borden and have it commemorate 50 years of EME services to Canada's Armed Forces. (The RCEME Gates remain in Kingston where they continue to serve as the EME Branch Memorial.)

**What is the EME Commemorative Monument?** In simple terms it is a central block, a hexagonal base, two low walls, a time capsule and a wide step.

The central block is the main feature. Engraved on the front is our current badge, and on the back is a capsule history of our Branch.

The hexagonal base supports the central block. Engraved on the front are our four trades badges. Engraved on the back is a list of the campaigns and peace-keeping missions in which Canada's Craftsmen have served.

The two low walls are on either side of the central block. On them are engraved the names of the donors to this monument. In some cases, donors have asked that instead of their name, the name of a person they wish to honour be engraved. On the ends of the walls are engraved our four former hat badges.

The time capsule is at the back of the monument. Various mementos of the past 50 years have been placed in it. The names of EME units which

have contributed to the Monument over a five year period are engraved on the top.

The wide step is at the front of the monument. Engraved on it is 1944-1994 and our motto *Arte et Marte*, which means by "by skill and by fighting", "*par l'adresse et le combat*".

**What does the commemorative monument symbolize?** The monument is more than some blocks of granite. It symbolizes our history, our accomplishments, and what we as members of EME are.

Our history is symbolized by the names of the corps and services which preceded us, by the names we have had, and by the hat badges we have worn.

Our accomplishments are symbolized by the list of where we have served and by the mementos in the time capsule.

What we are is Canada's Craftsmen, the soldier-technicians of Canada's Armed Forces. Our four trade badges symbolize our tradesmen and tradeswomen who are the foundation of our Branch. Our motto symbolizes how we work, by skill and by fighting. The dates, 1944-1994, symbolize that we have been a separately identifiable engineering branch for the past 50 years.

The EME Commemorative Monument represents our *esprit de corps*, our camaraderie and, above all, our satisfaction with a job well done. It was constructed at CFSEME to inspire our young craftsmen of tomorrow. We hope that the traditions and history demonstrated here will push them to continue to offer the quality of service we have established during the past 50 years, of which we are very proud. ■





## SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED!

Cold, wet, hot, and dry. These are the changing elements EME soldiers have had to endure over the past fifty years. So it should come as no shock that the 50th Anniversary Jeep Skill Team endured these same conditions while touring the countryside promoting the EME 50th Anniversary. From Edmonton to Chatham, the Team experienced all meteorological phenomena. The famous Alberta weather held true to form for the 21 May weekend as snowflakes were reported falling for the Namao International Air Show. Could have been worse, the Team could have been in Wainwright with the same weather!



▲ The Team (L to R): Cpl SR Clark, Cpl JJ Parisée, Cpl KNA Lawson, Cpl CL Clement, Cpl RJ Beers, Cpl RA Willmore, Lt AI Long, Sgt JAP Bigras.



▲ "What are you guys doing with my jeep!" ▶

Weather aside, the Skill Team was formed for the purpose of informing the Canadian public of the EME 50th Anniversary. To do so, the Team logged over 21,000 kilometres in the endless pursuit of entertaining the masses.

With the capable assistance of the Air Force (some would even hazard a guess that it was due to consistent grovelling by Maj Dubé and his staff at CFB Edmonton) the Team was even transported, via Hercules aircraft, from Trenton to Edmonton and return. However, the return trip to Trenton was not so cut and dry. For some reason the Air Force decided to transport the jeep to Bagotville from Edmonton. This required the Team, after landing in Toronto and travelling to Trenton by bus, to continue their journey to Chatham, only after taking a detour to Bagotville to pick the jeep up. The logistics of this can probably only be adequately described by Air Operations but, nonetheless, a huge thanks must be given to the Air Force for accommodating us in this venture.

Lieutenant AI Long, at the time posted to CFSEME, volunteered (so he says) to be the OPI of the Skill Team (little did he know that "OPI" meant Only Person Indicted if things went wrong) and took on the task with earnest. Among a myriad of administrative technicalities to be sorted out was who would compose the team. After endless NDHQ debates and committee meetings, it was determined that the Team would consist of seven technicians representing all four trades.



▲ "I'm so excited that I convinced that cute Lt to take me for a ride in his jeep!"

And, lest we forget the reserves, they were included as well. After months of deliberation and "horse trading," seven technicians were found from across Canada: Sgt JAP Bigras (Gagetown), Cpl RJ Beers (Halifax), Cpl SR Clark (Gagetown), Cpl CL Clement (11 Svc Bn, Victoria), Cpl KNA Lawson (Kingston), Cpl JJ Parisée (202 Wksp), Cpl RA Willmore (Winnipeg), and Pte MO Bennett (Gagetown – replacement for Cpl Clark).

While the haggling over taskings was taking place in higher headquarters, Base Maintenance Gagetown took on the arduous duty of modifying an M38 Jeep to meet all specifications to ensure problem free performances. The aforementioned Sgt Bigras and Cpl Clark were key individuals, as were a host of others in Gagetown, in the jeep modification process. The final product is a testament to the EME Craftsmen.

But, back to the administrative technicalities. For to fully appreciate the Jeep Team, one should be keenly aware of a host of outside agencies who were responsible for the successful Jeep Team cross-country tour. Yes, even our friends in the Trucker world (Director Transportation Management) deserve thanks, for it was they who did their own wheeling-and-dealing in finding the Team a flatbed and panel vans. Finding these vehicles, to the casual observer, may seem trivial. But, without first-hand knowledge of NDHQ, trivial matters take on a whole different light in Ottawa.







▲ "I figured out what's slowing the truck down!"

Of course, Director Public Affairs Operations was an interested observer, and our poster contractor, Katherine Taylor from Esprit de Corps/7 1 Film Canada provided a first rate poster, again after a multitude of deliberations with NDHQ staff.

In early April the Skill Team members gathered at CFB Borden to be put through a rigorous training regimen. After all those concerned had offered their opinions as to what the Team's performances should be, the skits were

finally perfected, and Lt Long and his team departed Borden for a 10 May gig in Montreal.

And so began a month-long journey across Canada at air shows, fairs and Armed Forces Days.

Despite a stubborn Mercedes flatbed (capable of a mind-boggling 40km/h up gentle hills and earth-shattering governed speeds of 95km/h down the same hills) the Team managed to attend all scheduled performances without a hitch. Through the summer months, the Team performed at 12 locations: Montreal, Borden, Edmonton, Chatham, LETE, Kingston, Ottawa, Gagetown, Sault Ste Marie, Trenton, Winnipeg, Shilo, and Moose Jaw – all to receptive and appreciative audiences.

True to form, the EME Craftsmen of the Team performed their task with expertise and dedication, in front of unfamiliar audiences. To this, we owe them our

gratitude for representing the Branch admirably in this the year of our 50th Anniversary. ■



▲ Sgt F.S. Vey, Wing EME NCO, and Maj H. Rogers, Wing Log O, unveil the new sign.



▲ Mr Stan Bown, LS Cliff Miller, Cpl David McDonald, Mr Bob Stratton, MCpl Robert Reynolds, Cpl Marv King, Sgt Leigh Vey and Cpl Brad Girvan. (Missing: Cpl Larry Clarke)

## THE HORSE AND GANDER

By Cpl Brad Girvan

To commemorate the RCCEM 50th Anniversary the members of 9 Wing EME CFB Gander paraded for the unveiling of their new sign. The sign features the roman numeral 9, a wing and the EME horse. It was designed by the Wing EME NCO, Sgt Vey, and is proudly displayed at the front of Wing Maintenance.

From there we were off to CFS St. John's where we joined in the festivities with the rest of the Newfoundland maintainers, gathering atop and around 36 (Newfoundland) Svc Bn's HLVW wrecker for a group photo. There was plenty of cheer in the personnel and in the atmosphere as we sang happy birthday to the horse. Once the formalities were complete the spirit of competition was ignited, with sporting events the order of the day. CFS St. John's fought hard and tried every underhanded technique they knew, but could not better the motivated boys from Gander. After

the dust, or should I say rain, settled Gander emerged victorious.

We then enjoyed an exquisite barbecue prepared by Sgt Lou Pearce (retired), washing it down with donations from our friendly neighbourhood Molson man. Later that evening the revelry continued once we accepted an invitation to tour the HMCS Fredericton in St. John's harbour. Once daylight broke the next morning it was unanimous that another job had been well done by RCCEM in the field under adverse conditions!

Arte et Marte ■



▲ The new EME sign!



# THE 1994 RCEME 50TH ANNIVERSARY CAR RAFFLE

by Captain PF Lemieux

It was a wonderful fall morning – clear skies, the leaves were changing colours, the birds were singing – when my OC invited me to the cafeteria for a coffee. I accepted – mistake number 1. It strikes me now that nothing is free in this world. I should have seen it coming



▲ “...so there I was drinking coffee in the OC’s office...”

– I should have seen the storm clouds on the horizon of my wonderful fall morning. I should have said “I don’t drink cafeteria coffee, Sir”, or “I’m awfully busy and can’t possibly spare the time”. There were lots of things I should have said, but instead I said “Sure, cream and one sugar please”. And so we chatted over coffee – mistake number 2. It is not wise to chat with your boss. I should have said “Thanks for the coffee – gotta go!” or “I think I hear my phone” but, instead, I drank my coffee as the subject changed to secondary duties. By this time it was starting to rain. I was in the unenviable position of not having too many secondary or tertiary duties (which of course my OC knew) so my options were somewhat limited when he asked if I would like to help him with the 1994 RCEME 50th Anniversary Car Raffle. I noted that the term ‘help’ had been defined rather loosely. I spilled my coffee in the hopes of creating a diversion but to no avail. I offered to buy a few more lottery tickets than I normally do, but that wasn’t his

idea of help. So I said “Yes, I would be glad to help” and that’s when I heard the thunder

and then the lightning struck. He immediately nominated me as Treasurer and then seconded the motion himself. All in favour? Passed! “Drop by my office”, he said, “and pick up some of the files I have from last year – it’ll take you a few trips”. And so it began...and I wondered, would it ever end? Completing the application for the Lottery Licence, delays, designing the raffle ticket, determining the ticket distribution list, confirming mailing addresses, delays, producing the ticket packages to be sent to units, delays, printing the tickets, delays, mailing the tickets, processing the ticket returns, recording information, maintaining the master ticket register, and so on. I had so-o-o much f-u-n. It was a quick and yet very long 9 months, devouring 650 LETE man-hours. I escaped with only two grey hairs – which the CO both noted and commented on. But enough about me, now let me tell you about the car raffle.

The 1994 RCEME 50th Anniversary Car Raffle was the sixth annual car raffle operated in support of the RCEME 50th Anniversary. A total of 50,000 tickets were printed for the 1994 Car Raffle, an increase from last year’s 40,000. The closure of CFE and the disbandments of units meant fewer EME organizations available to sell tickets – and, with the draw being in May, less time to sell tickets. An amazing 45,786 tickets were sold – a dramatic increase over the 34,856 sold last year. The gross revenue generated by the 1994 Car Raffle was \$79,662.05 and the net profit, after prizes and expenses, was \$47,346. Mr Stanley Gill, a long time supporter of the EME Branch and the owner of Gillmore Classics, generously donated



▲ Mr Gill generously donates \$20,000 to the 1994 RCEME Car Raffle.



▲ BGen Pergat buys the first book of raffle tickets from CO LETE, LCol Poole.

\$20,000 to the 1994 Car Raffle. The total amount raised in support of the RCEME 50th Anniversary Commemorative Monument Trust Fund on behalf of the 1994 Car Raffle was therefore \$67,346, a dramatic increase over last year’s \$37,629.

The winners of the 1994 Car Raffle were:

- a. First prize: 1994 Pontiac Bonneville or \$23,444 cash – Ed Daigle of Petawawa, Ontario,
- b. Second prize: \$2000 cash – Alain Tremblay of Boucherville, Quebec,
- c. Third prize: \$500 cash – GA MacKenzie of Orleans, Ontario,
- d. Fourth prize: \$500 cash – Sharlene Wagner of Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia,
- e. Fifth prize: \$500 cash – Rachelle Dupuis of Goose Bay, Newfoundland,
- f. Sixth prize: \$500 cash – Edward Morrisey of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia,
- g. Seventh prize: \$500 cash – David Berquist of Kingston, Ontario,
- h. Eighth prize: \$500 cash – Rod Stoesz of Calgary, Alberta

I learned so much from the car raffle that, when I’m posted, I’m not going to sell my house, I’m going to raffle it off! Now that the car raffle is over, I sit at my desk and try to piece together all of my other projects that had been ‘disrupted’. As I look out my window, I see that it is a wonderful summer day – clear skies, warm weather, the birds are singing. Say, did I tell you that I don’t drink coffee anymore..... ■







## A DGLEM CELEBRATION!

In honour of the 50th Anniversary year, the format for the annual DGLEM Mess Dinner, held on 23 March 1994, was changed a bit. Normally a typical stuffy officers-only affair, this year's dinner was a stuffy all-ranks affair, including civilians! Unlike most mess dinners, the main cause of stuffiness was having over 300 people in a room apparently without air conditioning! Due to the presence of

the large number of civilian and non-commissioned members, many of whom had never been to a mess dinner, the formality was somewhat reduced. (ie, we were allowed to pee before the toast to the queen!) In addition, speeches were kept to a minimum.

This gala event was held at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, and an excellent job of catering was done by

a local civilian company. The use of a caterer did cause some planning problems for head organizers Captain Dave Schroeder and Marie Delisle, as all the "little things" the Mess Manager normally takes care of had to be researched and explained to the caterer! At dinner's end, excellent comments were received from all, and most civilians agreed it was an evening they would like the chance to repeat. Next year? ■



▲ DGLEM personnel of all ranks and all civilian categories mingle.



▲ An "aerial view" of the over 300 diners enjoying an excellent dinner.

## RCEME APPRENTICES AT BARRIEFIELD, TAKEN IN SEPTEMBER 1953. CONTRIBUTED BY MWO BESWICK.





# LIFE ON AN AIRBASE... MUCH MORE THAN IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE — A Quick Look At 8 EME Sqn Trenton

by MCpl Ross J. Pettit

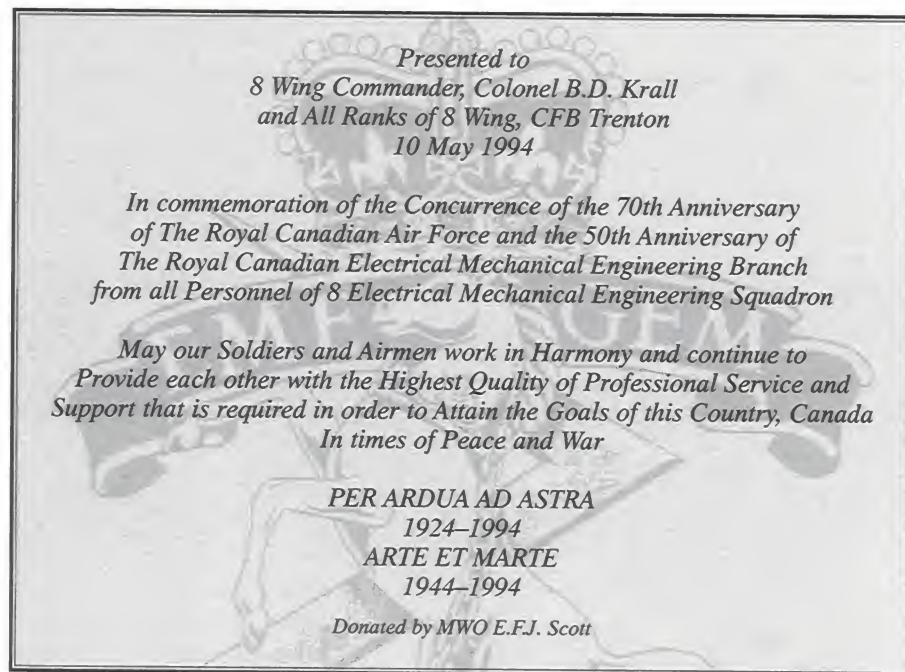
**H**appy 50th Birthday RCEME, LORE, LEME, EME and any personnel affiliated with the Branch! Greetings from 8 Wing EME Sqn, the only ARMY unit in Trenton, Ontario. This article will tour you through the workshop and show you who works where during this memorable 50th Anniversary year, and will provide a quick look at some of the 50th Anniversary activities that the workshop was involved in.

Here in Trenton our shop is made up of the HQ cell, Control, Workshop Support and Production, which consists of Servicing, Repair, Refuelling, Ancillary and finally Heavy Equipment sections.

The shop as a whole is responsible for keeping the airfield fleet serviceable, thereby keeping the runways open, the airplanes flying, and the Wing Commander happy. In addition, we are responsible for over 20 cadet units in the Ontario region, as well as the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, CFS Alert, and the Trenton Air Cadet Camp. A posting to Trenton requires a great deal of flexibility on the part of the Horse to work on the vast array of unique vehicles and eqpt required to support flying ops.

Capt Heather Stewart is OC EME Sqn, and the ETSM is MWO Eric Scott. WO Dan MacDonald is the Wksp Sp O/CFS Alert coordinator and WO Dean Curley is the Production Supervisor. The shop is a 56 person team, consisting of 40 military personnel and 16 civilian employees.

The brand spankin' new planner is Sgt Ray Landry who just replaced Sgt Joe Irvine who is posted to BC. The Contracts NCO is Sgt Jack Neville who also supervises the new parts cell, and



Mr. John Bennett tries to keep him honest! There are two WMS Clerks in the shop, Ms Donna Parsons, ex-vehicle tech, ex-parts chaser, and expert number-cruncher, and Cpl Karen Blackmore who was just posted in this summer from AMDU. Mr. Dan Nelson takes care of R&I and the Tool Crib, and Miss Deb Chouinard takes care of all the OC's paperwork.

Servicing Section is split into two cells, Inspections and Quick Repair, and is headed up by Sgt St Laurent who just came in from Valcartier. The Inspection cell is made up of four people and is run by MCpl John "Woody" Whitnall who is actually in Hall Beach North West Territories right now doing an ATI. MCpl Doug Goss and his team of four operate the quick repair side of the house.

Included within Servicing Section are the Line Tech and the AMSE Tech. The Line Tech is Cpl Wayne Pfeiffer and he is basically a roving MRT who spends his day on the Flight Line repairing

equipment in situ. The AMSE Tech is Cpl Trevor Horne and he is physically located in 8 AMS (formerly the BAMEO shop). The AMSE Tech works right in with the blue servicing techs and is responsible for maintaining such things as mules and portable power units, heaters and generators.

The main Vehicle Repair Section is a second-line organization and is run by yours truly. This section is made up of six top-notch technicians who, on occasion, can be found working on Ferret Scout



▲ MWO Scott present the Ranger propeller to Wing Commander, Col Krall.





▲ *The Ferret scout car refurbished and presented to the Canadian War Museum.*

Cars and 5T gas wreckers. A sub-section of Repair is the Refuelling Tender Repair Cell which is made up of three techs who are responsible for keeping 18 refuellers up and running. This can be a real challenge in the winter when the trucks are running 24/7 on the airfield in order to avoid freezing up.

Sgt Pierre Frechette runs the Heavy Eqpt Repair Section along with MCpl Val Harrisson as his 2 i/c. This is a seven-man satellite section, co-located with the W Tn O's Heavy section, and is responsible for all dumps, runway sweepers, snow blowers, plows, grass cutting eqpt etc for the entire base. Here's another section that is kept quite busy during the SNIC season.

Last but not least is the Ancillary Section which is run by Sgt Len Nearing. The four sub-sections are FCS, Weapons, Components and Materials. In the FCS cell we have MCpl Peter Bondett and Cpl Ian Mackie. The weapons tech, and we have only one, was Cpl Kevin Bennett who was just posted to 2 Svc Bn, and we now have Cpl Clint Hiebert. The Components cell has just been handed over from Cpl TJ Stringovits to MCpl



▲ *Capt Stewart and Col Krall inspect the squadron.*

Harold Ehrenriech from Lahr. Mr Carl Botting keeps training these guys, and together there's not an outboard motor or a snowmobile they can't fix.

Materials is run by Cpl Ernie Pothier and he is assisted by Mr Richard Terry and Mr Scott Terry (a family effort). There isn't a better group in the system when it comes to welding, painting and sewing!

We always have one mechanic at CFS Alert on a six-month attached posting. At this time it is Cpl Dave Remus enjoying the polar bears and the Beach. We also provide a man to Eureka during the summer months, this summer it is Cpl Mike Orford. We have a MCpl serving with CANLOGBAT in the former Yugoslavia, MCpl Alphie MacDonald; not long left now Alphie! In the spring we had a member take part in the first UN Yugoslavia ATI/MTT inspection repair team.

We are constantly sending mechanics back and forth to Ancona, Italy in order to do maintenance and repairs on equipment held at the ALCE there. The latest victim for that trip was Cpl Wayne Pfeiffer. There are two people in Hall Beach North West territories right now doing an ATI, and Cpl Dean Fife is slated to go to the Golan in August, just one day after his wedding. Have fun Dean!

Considering all of those taskings and not to mention the training that we do such as WDF (alias BDF), EGSE courses in Borden and operator/maintenance training on all the new equipment in support of the Airbus, we are pretty busy. Twice a year we manage to get to the ranges in Kingston to keep up on our rifle skills. Capt Stewart is still the reigning marksman. (Way to go Heather. ed) We have one man on standby as a volunteer SAR spotter, that's MCpl Peter Bondett. We also get lots of chances to work those Honour Guard people because Trenton is always receiving or seeing off various assortments of dignitaries from Canada, the US and abroad.

As far as the RCME 50th is concerned, EME Sqn Trenton certainly made it known to the resident blue types that something special was going on this year in the Branch.

We started on 4 February 1994 with an EME 50th Winter Carnival which origin-ally involved Base Maintenance Toronto, Kingston, 1 CDHSR, and several 8 Wing squadrons and units. Toronto and the CDHSR couldn't make it, so EME Sqn Trenton took on Base Maintenance Kingston and all of the Wing Logistics Squadrons in sports, snow sculpture and beer drinking... and, well, the rest is history. It was a good day and superior training for all.

On 10 May 1994, just days before the big weekend in Borden, EME Sqn held their own full-fledged 50th Anniversary parade including having the Wing Commander, Col Barry Krall, down to the workshop as the Presiding Officer. At that time we presented him with a propeller from a 1943 Ranger, mounted on a background covered in the Airforce tartan, with a brass EME Horse, a brass



▲ *A happy Winter Carnival gang!*

Airforce insignia and an inscription denoting the concurrence of our 50th Anniversary and their 70th Anniversary. (see figure 1 for inscription) It currently resides in the Wing Commander's office and upon his posting will be moved to a prominent location within the new RCAF Memorial Museum which just recently opened here at 8 Wing.

In preparation for the parade and also for some OJT in the shop a relic Ferret Scout Car was borrowed from the Canadian War Museum warehouse in Ottawa as an in-house refurbishment project. Although this endeavour took many hours to complete, the Ferret was a nice addition to our unit's 50th Anniversary Parade. The scout car was later donated





▲ 8 Wing EME Squadron

to the Canadian War Museum in a ceremony in Ottawa in August.

Cpls Ian Mackie and Mike Orford made up a large metal painted sign which sports the EME shoulder flashes, all ex and current hat badges and the 50th logo in the centre. Originally this sign was intended to bring attention to passers by our workshop in Trenton by having it situated beside the flagpole in our front yard, but word travels quickly and before we knew it Ian and Mike were on their way to Ottawa to present a duplicate sign to BGen V. Pergat, DGLEM, for use in the National Capital Region. (see edition 3/94 for a full report on the making of the sign. ed)

For activities out of the area, we had teams from EME Sqn taking part in the 50th Anniversary Curling Bonspiel (where's the Horse?) at CFB Petawawa, as well as the 50th Anniversary Parade and Monument Unveiling Ceremony in Borden on the Birthday weekend. As well we donated nine bodies, including the Captain, to the Freedom of the City Parade in Kingston in June. You can bet we will have appropriate representation at the 50th Anniversary Golf Tournament as well!

As for future projects a 5T gas wrecker was recently scrounged from Kingston and once refurbished will grace the front of the workshop as a

monument. A 1943 Firetruck will be coming to our shop also and, once completed, will be displayed at the newly-opened RCAF Museum on AMDU road. The Colonel Commandant is arranging the display for the RCAF Museum in memory of all EME/MSE techs, and includes not only the Firetruck but also a display table with a glass top which will have all sorts of RCME/EME paraphernalia in it and a monumental cairn with a brass plaque which will be dedicated, hopefully by the DGLEM, to the RCAF Museum.

This summer was the 1994 Quinte International Air Show, and we were heavily involved in that as well. A static ground display of equipment from the Worthington Museum, the SSF, the Oshawa Ferret Club and modern day airfield support equipment caught a lot of interest from the crowds.

So if you ever thought that coming to an Airforce Base was going to be your chance to relax, you are very **WRONG!** ! There are more taskings here than you can shake a stick at, but we can handle it because we are maintainers, we are professionals and most of all we are highly adaptable. ■

## HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY FROM THE "JAW"

by Capt Fraser

**H**appy Birthday EME! Fifty years is a huge milestone for any organization, and was celebrated here in Moose Jaw with a parade, baseball game (Offr/Sr NCOs vs Jr Ranks) and a dinner/dance. The baseball game proved to be a disaster for the Officer/Sr NCO team, even after recruiting MCpls to play for them. Score? We stopped counting.

Past and present members of EME gathered for the dinner and

dance organized solely by Cpls from the Canteen Committee. A fine buffet, prizes

and EME wine were enjoyed by all. The only thing more full than our bellies were the courtesy buses

going home. Let's do it again in 2044 for our 100th Anniversary!

Arte et Marte ■







# EME IN THE FROZEN NORTH!

by Sgt B.J. Cooling

**A**cross Canada all EME Units will be celebrating the Branch's 50th Anniversary this year and we here at 22 Wing are no different. On the 12 May 94 the EME Squadron started the days festivities off with a parade, with the Wing Comd, Col E.R. Cornick, as Reviewing Officer. Also in attendance

were the W Log O, LCol K.D. Payne, and the WCWO CWO H. Allen. On conclusion of the inspection the Sqn OC, Capt M.D. Fitz-Gerald presented Col Cornick with a framed collage commemorating the RCEME 50th. The formal ceremonies now completed, we then had a small gathering for refreshments.

The day then continued with a softball game between the SrNCMs/Ofprs and the JrNCMs was held. Although the SrNCMs/Ofprs put up a good fight they gave up the game graciously for a final score of 13-9.

The next order of the day was a BBQ where the members got together, talking over old times and saying their farewells to the departing friends leaving the unit this summer. Following the BBQ the presentations of plaques were made to the departing members by the OC. We would like to say goodbye at this time to our outgoing ETQSM MWO K.S. Melbourne,



▲ Colonel Cornick and Capt Fitz-Gerald inspect the parade.

who will be spending the next year with the CDN Contingent Multi-National Force and Observer in El Gorah, Egypt. (I don't believe there are any antiques there).

Also leaving is Cpl J. Blackmore who will serve the next six months on the sun swept slopes of the Golan Heights. To those leaving for good, we would like to wish good luck and good fortune to you and your families. Till next time. ■



▲ Departing EME Sqn Personnel: Cpl Greg Bollien, Cpl Mario Girard, MCpl Doug Courtney, Capt Mike Fitz-Gerald (not leaving!), Cpl Dave Daley, MWO Ken Melbourne, MCpl Rosaire Thibeault.



## ▲ 22 WING EME SQUADRON 1994

**Front Row:** Sgt A.V. Sartori, Sgt B.J. Cooling, Sgt R.K. Ashworth, MWO K.S. Melbome, CWO H. Allen, Col E.R. Cornick, LCol K.D. Payne, Capt M.D. Fitz-Gerald, WO K. Clarke, Sgt J.P. Girardeau, WO D.L. Coffin  
**Second Row:** Ms S. Kelly, Mrs M. Eddington, Cpl D.A. Daley, Cpl D.L. Casey, MCpl Y. Trempe, Cpl J.P. Mailloux, Cpl L.R. Laishley, Cpl L.W. Jensen, MCpl D.N. Courtney, Cpl J. Baars, Cpl M.S. Delarosbil, Cpl G.A. Boxien, MCpl J.P.C.M. Berthelot, MCpl A. Marcil, Cpl J.E. Morel, MCpl K.J. Baltzer  
**Third Row:** Mr G. Joy, Cpl T.D. Caughey, MCpl J.R. Thibeault, Cfn J.R. Denis, Cpl J.A.M., Girard, Cpl J.T. Spence, Cpl D. Guennette, MCpl J.G.G. Pelletier, MCpl R. G. Rice, Cpl H.L.T. LeBuis, MCpl W.C. O'Regan, Cpl J.D. Lorimer, Mr R. Ahopelto  
**Back Row:** Mr B. Roberts, Mr J. Taylor, Mr K. Mills



# NATIONAL CELEBRATION WEEKEND

by Capt B.A. Peters and MWO B.G. Baker

As the home of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Branch, CFSEME had the proud honour of hosting the 50th Anniversary Celebration from 13 May through 15 May 1994.

The many activities planned for the weekend were formulated over the past year, and were designed to reflect all aspects of life while serving as a Craftsman. The weekend activities commenced

with "soldiers on the square" which proved to be a real crowd-pleaser. Some of the highlights featured a para jump, assembly/disassembly of an L5 Howitzer, the "EME Horse", and a roll-past including a variety of vehicles EME has been responsible to maintain over the past 50 years. Our intrepid Skill at Arms teams, representing units from across Canada, departed the square with the arduous task of completing the extremely

difficult 50 kilometre course ahead of them. Their hopes began with finishing the competition first and, half-way through the course, now in the middle of the night, they wonder if they will even complete it. Immediately following the parade a Meet and Greet took place at the Craftsman Inn, which was decorated in a field-orientated motif. This allowed over two thousand former and serving members, and their guests,

## FRIDAY 13 MAY 1994 – ANNIVERSARY PARADE



▲ MWO Clarke and Sgt Lemoine parade with the "EME Horse".



▲ Sgt Phinney's gun team quickly assembles an L5 howitzer demonstrating skill and speed during the parade.



▲ MWO Hargrave, commanding the Leopard Recovery Vehicle bearing United Nations markings, trails the Roll-Past in traditional EME fashion.



▲ MCpl Waters performs a precision para drop onto the parade square to present a flag to BGen Pergat.



▲ Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Band marches proudly past the reviewing officer during the parade.



▲ Capt Thompson in a Ferret scout car leads the roll-past of equipment spanning the 50 years of the EME Branch.



▲ Comdt CFSEME leads EME soldiers on the Anniversary Parade.



▲ The Branch Advisor, BGen Pergat, presents Brigadier Graham, representing the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, the "EME Haut Relief".







## MEET AND GREET



▲ The Meet and Greet at the Craftsman Inn, following the Anniversary Parade, entertained many guests and EME members.



▲ Two British Soldiers from the REME Band enjoy refreshments and festivities at the Craftsman Inn.

the opportunity to relive old war stories, invent new ones, renew old friendships and make new acquaintances.

Saturday's festivities opened with a hearty pancake breakfast served from a field kitchen by versatile EME maintainers. Once breakfast was completed, all patrons were encouraged to take a scenic Volksmarch with an outstanding 50th souvenir medal being the reward for the exercise-conscious. Throughout the

day an Open House captivated the old and young alike, with many activities and displays including everything from a Junior Craftsman course to a Leopard power pack pull. The Jeep Skill Team added a unique and very entertaining maintenance display that proved to be a favourite with one and all. The evening's entertainment included an Officers', Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Ball at the Waterloo Officers' Mess. Running concurrently was an All Ranks Dance

featuring two live bands, The Jeff Healy Band and Honeymoon Suite. They kept the guests, numbering over 1400 people, dancing until the wee hours of Sunday morning.

Sunday proved the highlight of the weekend, commencing with the unveiling of the RCCEME stained glass windows during special ceremonies held at both Base Borden chapels. The day culminated with the dedication of the RCCEME Commemorative Monument in front of the CFSEME Headquarters building. This single event was definitely the climax of a three-day anniversary celebration that will be talked about by all who attended for many years to come. If you were one of the unfortunate members who did not get the opportunity to attend this celebration, the monument standing proudly in CFB Borden is a must to see and the envy of all who are not part of the family.

Over 2 500 people took part in the various activities over the weekend at CFB Borden. The positive comments and heartfelt thanks received from many retired members and other guests can be directly attributed to the hard work of the men of the EME Branch who made it happen. This outstanding weekend afforded the opportunity for old and new friends to celebrate in true EME spirit. Those who decided not to come will have to live in regret for another 50 years until an event of this magnitude and class comes around once again!

Arte et Marte ■

## SKILL AT ARMS



▲ The obstacle course provided a challenging test for many teams during the 50 kilometre competition.



▲ A team judges distance under the watchful eye of WO Farmer.



▲ A Skill at Arms team rapidly moving between stands during the competition.



▲ 5 SVC Bn, from Valcartier, proved planning, preparation, and determination guarantees a successful team every time.



SATURDAY 14 MAY 1994



▲ CWO Gauthier, Base CWO, would never pass up the opportunity for a filling Army Breakfast from a field kitchen.



▲ Everybody attending the pancake breakfast was very satisfied with 2 Service Battalion's culinary efforts and smiling faces.



▲ This young lady had no difficulty completing this portion of the obstacle course.



▲ The suspended bridge is carefully traversed by a future Skill at Arms soldier.



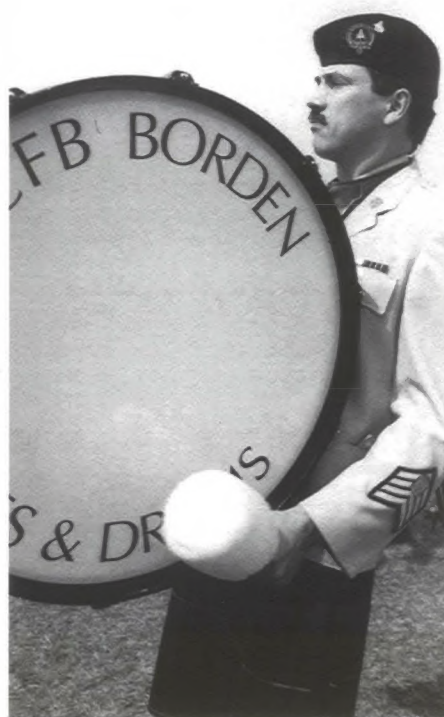
▲ The children's obstacle course at the Open House provided challenges for the younger members of the EME Family.



▲ Bagpipes of the Borden Pipes and Drums added their distinct musical flavour to the Open House festivities.



▲ Two CFSEME students in period RCME uniforms provided memorable photo opportunities for many guests during the day.



▲ Sgt Doucet performs with the Borden Pipes and Drums, which entertained throughout the day.







▲ The Jeff Healy Band was the main entertainment at the All Ranks Dance, which attracted a great many people from the Base and local community to help the EME family celebrate the Anniversary.



▲ Two RCME veterans pose beside a piece of vintage equipment they are both very familiar with.



▲ A 1942 Staff Car refurbished by CFSEME soldiers was one of the many vehicles on display at the Open House.



▲ BGen Doucet with partner, and Maj Rutter with Capt Sardana, enjoy the music at the Officers and SNCOs Ball.



▲ Sgt Crocker (retired) in period dress, performs weapons maintenance.



▲ Mr Niles Hellman, operating a forge, represented one of the many exhibits provided for the enjoyment of guests at the Open House.



SATURDAY 14 MAY 1994 (CONT.)



▲ The dedication of Craftsman Road is overseen by (L to R) CWO Rest Branch CWO, BGen Pergat Branch Advisor, Pte Meers, Pte Fieldsend, Col Clarke Commandant CFSEME, and CWO Clough RSM CFSEME.



▲ EME soldiers recover an overturned vehicle, allowing spectators to see first-hand how recovery is performed in the field.



▲ The EME Commemorative Monument is proudly unveiled by CFN Facey, LCol Bradford (retired) and General De Chastelain, Chief of the Defence Staff.



Padre McLeod completes the ceremony by blessing the monument. ►



▲ CPO1 Carroll CFCWO enjoys refreshment and conversation with Sgt Tremblay and Sgt Cambridge at the reception following the monument unveiling.



▲ CWO Rest receives instruction on how to cut the Anniversary Cake from Gen de Chastelain as BGen Pergat enjoys the moment.



◀ CFSEME staff after the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary weekend.